



## **American Nuclear Society Officer and President of Bechtel Nuclear Speaks Out for the Nuclear Industry**

Mr. Jim Reinsch, President of Bechtel Nuclear and Vice President/ President Elect of the American Nuclear Society (ANS), spoke at the plenary session of the "Decision-Makers Forum on a Unified Strategy for Nuclear Energy" in Washington, D.C. on July 13. Mr. Reinsch provided an industry perspective on recent new nuclear generation activities involving the utilities, technology suppliers, and architect/engineers.

With the growing demand for energy and the imperative need for energy security and independence, nuclear power is needed now more than ever, Mr. Reinsch said. Today nuclear power is safe, reliable, and competitive with coal and natural gas fuels and environmentally sound by eliminating greenhouse gas emissions, he added.

Mr. Reinsch said the industry is doing its part, with the utilities sustaining excellent operational performance of the existing US nuclear fleet and the formation of three consortia--a Dominion-led consortium, a TVA-led consortium, and NuStart Energy Development-- that are demonstrating the Combined Operating Licensing (COL) process. There have been substantial contributions in both time and money by the technology suppliers, General Electric, Westinghouse, Atomic Energy Canada Limited, and Areva/Framatome. The universities and national laboratories are providing significant contributions with advanced reactor technology design and their efforts on long-term solutions for minimizing nuclear waste, he added.

He praised the DOE for the Nuclear Power 2010 initiative and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for streamlining the licensing process. These initiatives and innovations are significant contributors in keeping the nuclear renaissance moving.

Mr. Reinsch also discussed several hurdles that must be overcome to sustain nuclear power's momentum: Spent fuel management, public acceptance, rebuilding the nuclear infrastructure, a proven advanced nuclear technology, and regulatory certainty.

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy National Laboratories, and organized by the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL), the forum was attended by senior representatives from the utilities, NSSS suppliers, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, DOE, national laboratories, and universities. Held in response to national energy policy, which recommends expanding the use of nuclear energy in the United States, the forum sought to define a high level consensus on the vision, goals, and strategies needed to guide nuclear energy development and deployment through mid-century.

**Contact:** For further information on the Forum please contact Dr. Ralph Bennett at INEEL at 208-526-7708 or by e-mail at [rcb@inel.gov](mailto:rcb@inel.gov)